## IN SENATE

OF

## THE UNITED STATES,

JANUARY 2, 1818.

The Committee of Claims to whom was referred the petition of Weaver Bennet,

## REPORT:

That the petitioner represents himself to have shipped as a sergeant of marines, on board the public armed brig, Washington, in the autumn of the year 1775, at 9 dollars per month. That the brig sailed from Plymouth in the then colony of Massachusetts bay, and was captured by a British ship the night after her sailing. That the petitioner remained in captivity five years and four months, and never has received any pay for his services. Accompanying the petition is the deposition of John Viol, going to prove the capture of the petitioner: Said Viol was one of the crew of the Washington at the time she was taken. The petitioner exhibits a certificate of Sion Martindale, dated Bristol, February the 27th, 1781, setting forth that Weaver Bennet was taken with said Martendale in the brig Washington, and carried into England. On reference had to the Treasury and War Departments, the committee have been informed that no evidence is found thereon touching this claim. The committee are not aware having regard to the date of this transaction, that the said brig could have been a public vessel of the United States; nor do they think evidence enough is adduced to authorize the allowance of the claim. They therefore submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his pe-

tition.

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